crowns, and yet they say he spends it so strangely as he cannot keep a penny in his purse

15^ *May* THE EARL OF NORTHUMBERLAND

It is said that my Lord of Northumberland, together with Lord Cobham and Sir Walter Ralegh, are now come round to the party of King James The Earl is unhappy, for both Court and town exclaim against his indiscretion for challenging a great commander of the state at such a time

i jib May THE MARSHAL BIRON

From France the news is that the Marshal Biron hath sent excuses to the King's summons, but his good meaning is suspected, though it is believed that the King's purpose is, if he will present himself, with courteous treatment and fond entertainment to regain him, and with the greatest favours to assure him to his service

22nd May NEWS OF SIR R LEVESON.

One Captain King hath brought letters from Sir Richard Leveson's fleet wherein he reporteth that on 31st March last he descried the West Indian fleet, 38 sail in all He essayed to take one ship, but the night being exceeding dark and die sea suddenly growing high he was neither able to make her fast nor his people to enter her Four several times his ship fell off and four times he boarded her again Next morning the English Captains were called to council, and discerning the inequality of the match, they delivered their opinions that they might give blows and take blows, but without hope of profit, hazard their men and endanger their masts, and so be disabled to do what they went for Hereupon they parted with much discontent as man can imagine to see so much wealth without power to take it. Yet they followed the fleet

into the shore
that day and the next in hope of a straggler, but the weather
growing to be very fair would not yield such a benefit Re-
porteth also that at Lisbon and the Groin there is no appear-
ance of preparation and that most of the soldiers of Don Juan
that came out of Ireland are dead

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27?